

THE
HISTORY OF LITTLE
GOODY
TWO SHOES.



LONDON :
A. Ryle & Co., Printers,
2 & 3,
Monmouth Court,
BLOOMSBURY.

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THE HISTORY
OF
LITTLE GOODY
TWO SHOES.



LONDON:
RYLE & Co., Printers, 2 & 3, Monmouth Court 7 Dials



Goody Two Shoes.

GOODY TWO SHOES was the daughter of Farmer Meanwell, who lived on a farm belonging to Justice Gripe, a rich, covetious man, who turned all his poor tenants out of their farms, where they had lived for so many years. The case was thus:—The parish of Mouldwell had for many ages been let into twelve farms, until their Landlord found it more convenient to consent to give the whole into the hands of old farmer Graspall.

Care and misfortune soon shortened the days of poor Margery's parents, leaving herself and her brother Tommy to the world; it would have given pleasure to have seen how fond these children were of each other; they were both ragged; as for Tommy, he had two shoes, but poor Margery had but one. They had nothing for some time but what they picked from the hedges or got from poor people, and they slept every night in a barn.

Mr. Smith, a worthy clergyman of the parish, sent for these poor children, and they lived with him some time. A Gentleman who was on a visit, ordered little Margery a pair of shoes, gave her some money to buy clothes, and said he would take Tommy and make him a sailor; and had a jacket and trowsers made for him.

The parting between these little children was affecting; they both cried, and kissed each other many times. At last, Tommy wiped off her tears with the end of his jacket and bid her cry no more, for that he would come to her again, when he returned from sea.

Nothing could have supported Margery under the affliction she was in, but the pleasure she took in her new shoes, which was just received from the shoemaker.

She ran to find Mrs. Smith, as soon as they were on, and pointing down to them, cried, "Two shoes, ma'am; see! two shoes!" and so she behaved to every body she met, and by that means obtained the name of Goody Two Shoes.

Margery having seen how good and wise Mr Smith was, thought this was owing to his great learning, therefore she wanted to learn to read; for which purpose she met the little boys and girls as they came from school, borrowed their books, and read till they returned from dinner.

By this means she got more learning than her play-mates, and laid the following scheme for teaching those more ignorant than herself. She found that only the following letters were required to spell all the words in the world; but as some of these were large, and some small, she with her knife cut out of several pieces of wood six sets as follows:

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U
V W X Y Z.

and ten sets of these:

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z.

And having got an old spelling book, she made her companions set up all the words they wanted to spell: and after that, taught them to compose sentences. Her usual method was this: suppose the word to be spelt was plum-pudding, the children were placed in a circle, the first brought the letter P, the next l, the next u, and so on till the whole is spelt. A wrong letter, no more play.

This was getting instruction at their play, and every morning she went round teaching the children with these letters in a basket.

I once went her rounds with her, and was highly entertained. We set out, and first came to farmer Wilson's. Here Margery stopped, and ran up to the door, rap! tap! rap! "Who's there?" "Only little Goody Two Shoes," answered Margery, "come to teach Billy." "Oh! little Goody," says Mrs. Wilson, "I am glad to see you. Billy has learned all his lesson." Then out came the little boy.

“How do, Goody Two Shoes?” says he, not able to speak plain. Yet this little boy had learned all his letters, for she threw down upon the floor the alphabet mixed together, and he called them by their right names, and put them in order.

The next place we came to was farmer Simpson’s. Bow, wow, wow, says the dog at the door. “Sirrah,” says his mistress, “what! do you bark at little Two Shoes? Come in, Madge; here, Sally wants you sadly; she has learnt all her lesson.” “Yes, that’s what I have,” replied the little one; and she set these syllables:

ba be bi bo bu, ca ce ci co cu,
da de di do du, sa se si so su.

and gave them their exact sounds as she composed them. Little Two Shoes then taught her to spell words of one syllable, and she soon set up pear, plum, top, ball, pin, puss, dog, hog, fawn, buck, doe, and many more. The next place we came to, was Gaffer Cook’s cottage. Here a number of children were met, who all came round Margery: having pulled out her letters she asked the girl next her what she had for dinner. “Apple Pie,” answered she: upon which the next in turn set up a great A, the two next produced a P, each, and so on, till the words Apple and Pie were united, and stood thus, Apple Pie. The next had Potatoes, the next Beef and Turnips, which were spelt, with many others, till the game was finished; she then set them the following tasks.

LESSON I.

He that will thrive,
Must rise by five.

He that has thriven,
May lay till seven.

Truth may be blam’d,
But can’t be sham’d.

Tell me with whom you go,
And I’ll tell what you do.

A friend in need,
Is a friend indeed.

LESSON II.

A good boy will be a good man.
Honour your parents, and the
good will honour you.

Love your friends, and your
frienda will love you.

He that swims in sin, will sink
in sorrow.

Learn to live as you would wish
to die.

As you’d have others deal by you
So yield to each his rightful due.

She next went to Polly Sullen’s. This little girl as very proud and obstinate, and fond of fine clothes;



Goody Two Shoes and Tommy at home with their Parent.

so vain was she, that she would often stand viewing herself in the glass for some time, and thought every one beneath her that was not finely drest; which every little boy and girl must know was very wicked.—Little Two Shoes tried to subdue Polly's stubbornheart and teach her to be humble and kind to all, by setting her lessons on humility and meekness, which after a short time had a good effect on her.

Coming home, she saw a gentleman who was very ill, sitting under a tree. Though ill, he began to joke with Margery, and said, laughing, "Pray can you tell me what I must do to get well?" "Yes, Sir," says she; "go to bed when the rooks do, and get up with them in the morning; earn, as they do, what you eat; and then you will get health and keep it." The gentleman gave Margery sixpence, being much pleased with her reply.

Some time after, Margery, returning late from teaching, was overtaken by a storm, and took shelter in a barn, where

four thieves also soon entered, who not seeing her concealed in the straw, began to lay plans for their future robberies, among others that of the houses of Sir William Dove and Sir Timothy Gripe, but as it was late, they agreed on the following night, and then departed.

Early on the following morning she went to Sir William, who was just mounting his horse, and told him of the danger he was in. Upon which, he asked her name, and bid her call at his house on the following day. She also went to Sir Timothy, notwithstanding he had used her so very ill, for it was her duty to do good for evil.

As soon as he was informed who she was, he took no notice of her, and would not hear a word she had to say; but this ill-treatment did not prevent Margery from informing his Lady, who set people to guard the house.

The robbers came about the time they had mentioned, and were taken. On their examination, one of them turned evidence, and it appeared that both gentlemen owed their life to the discovery made by Margery.

Sir William took great notice of her, and resolved to reward her, but Sir Timothy only said that he was ashamed to owe his life to the daughter of one who was his enemy!

One Mrs Williams, who, at this time was very old and infirm, kept a school, was desired by Sir William to examine Goody, and see whether she was qualified for the office. This being done in her favour, he purchased the school, and gave it to Margery, in gratitude for saving his life.

One day she met some bad boys ill-using a raven, she bought it of them for a penny, called him Ralph and a fine bird he was. A short time after, from the same cause she got a pigeon, who was called Tom, and while Ralph took care of the large letters, Tom took care of the smaller ones.

In addition to these, from the great respect with which Goody Two Shoes was held by her neighbours, she was presented with a little dog called Jumper, and a sky-lark, the latter she thought would be useful to her

pupils to tell them when to get up.

Some time after this a poor lamb had lost its dam, and the farmer being about to kill the lamb, she bought it of him and brought it home to teach the children when to go to bed. No sooner was Tippy the lark, and Will the ba-lamb, brought into the school, than Ralph, the Raven, pointed out the following verse in one of the little books, which every body ought to know :

“Early to bed, and early to rise,

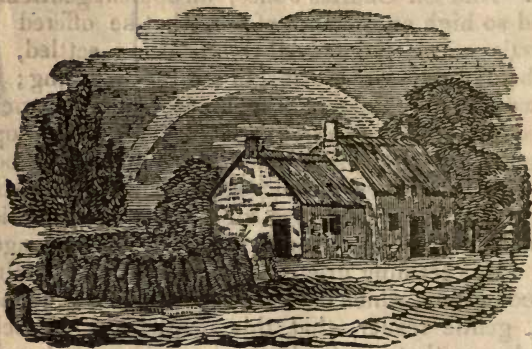
“Is the way to be healthy, wealthy, and wise.”

Mrs Margery was always doing good, and her fame so spread abroad, that she received the public thanks of the county magistrates for the services she had rendered. And Sir Charles Jones, an opulent gentleman, formed so high an opinion of her, that he offered her proposals of marriage. All things being settled, the neighbours came in crowds to see the wedding; but just as the clergyman had begun, a gentleman richly dressed ran into the church, and cried, “Stop, stop!” This greatly alarmed the intended bride and bridegroom. After they had been talking some time, the people were greatly surprised to see Sir Charles stand motionless, and his bride cry and faint in the stranger’s arms. This seeming grief, however, was only a prelude to a flood of joy, which immediately followed. You must know, gentle reader, that this gentleman, so richly dressed, was that identical little boy whom you saw before in the sailor’s habit! In short, it was Mr Thomas Meanwell, Mrs Margery’s brother, who had just come from beyond sea, where he had made a large fortune; and hearing as soon as he landed, of his sister’s intended wedding, he rode post to see that a proper settlement was made on her. They soon returned, and were married in tears, but they were tears of joy.

After this marriage, Lady Jones ordered a house to be fitted up for a school, and placed a poor man and his wife there, who were acquainted with the English language, and set good examples to the whole village in sobriety and honesty.

About this time, she heard that her old friend, Mr. Smith, was oppressed by Justice Gripe, and his quondam friend Graspall, upon which she defended him, and the cause was tried in Westminster Hall, where Mr. Smith gained a verdict; and it appearing that Sir Timothy had behaved most scandalously, as a Justice of the peace, he was no longer permitted to act in that capacity.

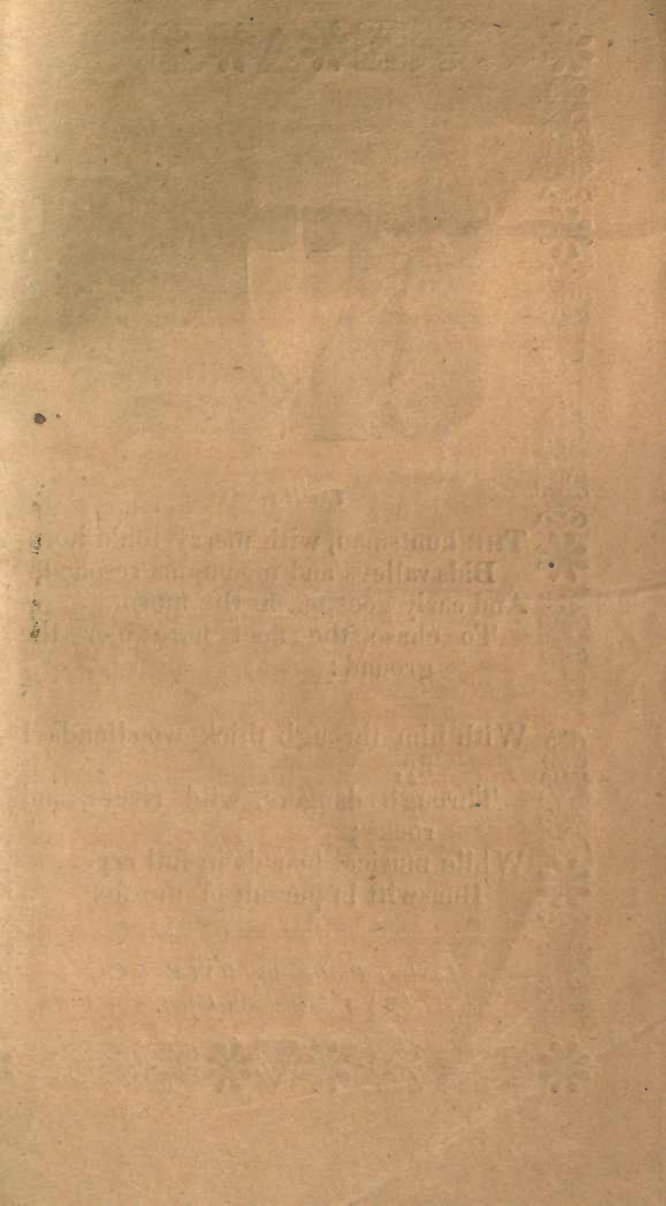
Her life was the greatest blessing, and her death the greatest calamity that had been felt in the neighbourhood for many years.

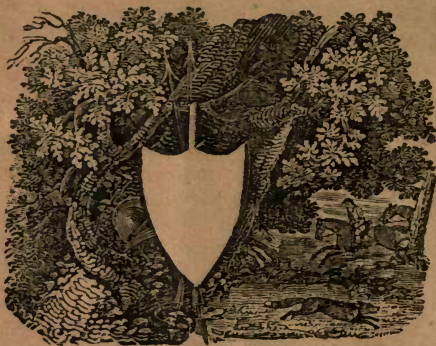


LONDON:

A. RYLE & Co., PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS,
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The Huntsman

THE huntsman, with merry-ton'd horn,
Bids valleys and mountains resound,
And early goes out in the morn,
To chase the fleet hare o'er the
ground :

With him through thick woodlands I
fly,
Through dangers, wild rivers, and
rocks ;
While musical hounds in full cry,
Runswift in pursuit of the fox

*London : Published by RYLE & Co.,
2 & 3, Monmouth Court,*